

Plant-out-of-place Wooly Distaff Thistle



Plant-out-of-place Portuguese Broom



















EXOTIC SHRUB Portuguese Broom

EXOTIC HERB Wooly Distaff Thistle

(Carthamus lanatus)

EXOTIC HERB Foxglove

(Digitalis purpurea)

(Cytisus striatus)

Description

- Long lived shrub that grows 6-9 ft tall
- Slender 8- to 10-angled stems
- Pale yellow pea-like flowers are borne singularly or in pairs
- Small leaves of 1-3 leaflets
- Mature seed pods are densely hairy
- Branches are green when young, turning brown with age

Habitat

Coastal prairie, coastal scrub, oak savannah, and open-canopy woodlands

Don't confuse with... Scotch Broom which has:

- Darker yellow flowers
- Fewer angles on stems
- Seeds pods are not covered with dense white hairs
- Also a plant-out-of-place



Scotch broom flower and seedpod



Portuguese broom flower and seedpod

Description

- Erect annual plant that grows to 3 ft
- Yellow flowers with red veins 3/4 in wide, surrounded by spiny modified leaves up to 2 in
- Leaves with deep lobes and spines
- The stem is single on the bottom half and branched on the top
- Leaves are deeply lobed and have spines
- No stem wings
- Young plants form a rosette (circular cluster of leaves)

Habitat

Disturbed areas, seeds are moved by animals and machinery

Don't confuse with... Yellow starthistle which has:

- Upper leaves that are not lobed
- A grey appearance

Description

- Erect perennial plant that grows to 5 ft
- Showy pinkish purple or white bellshaped flowers with spots on the inside lower portion
- Young plants form a rosette (circular cluster of leaves)
- 2nd year plants produce tall stalks of flowers

Habitat

- Moist meadows and roadsides
- Found in wildflower seed mixes- do not "dump" these seeds near wild areas!



Image credits: front page, bottom- @Mark W. Skinner, bottom-USGS; Back page, left- USGS Don Gardner, right- © Barry A. Rice/ The Nature Conservancy